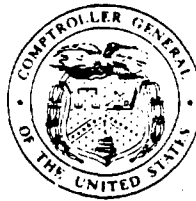


DECISION



15029 Done
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**THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL
OF THE UNITED STATES**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

FILE: B-197747

DATE: March 5, 1980

MATTER OF: Scan-Optics, Inc.

DIGEST:

[Protest alleging specification deficiencies
not filed prior to closing date for receipt
of initial proposals is untimely and not
for consideration on merits.] DLG-046

Scan-Optics, Inc. protests specification deficiencies in request for proposals (RFP) No. 33FP-C2-N-B-B7522-4-17-79, issued by the General Services Administration (GSA) for the procurement of an OCR and Key Entry System for the Department of Labor. Scan-Optics Inc. contends that the specifications are unclear and restrictive.

- Since the allegations concern deficiencies in the RFP, the protest, to be timely, had to be filed "prior to bid opening or the closing date for the receipt of initial proposals." 4 C.F.R. § 20.2(b)(1) (1979). Although the protester apparently voiced concerns about alleged specification deficiencies during the period which preceded issuance of the solicitation, we understand that no protest was filed with the agency subsequent to issuance of the solicitation and prior to the closing date for receipt of proposals of May 1, 1979. Consequently, the protest filed here on February 15, 1980, is untimely filed and cannot be considered on its merits. See Plasmadyne, B-193726, March 7, 1979, 79-1 CPD 162.

The protest is dismissed.

Harry R. Van Cleave
for Milton J. Socolar
General Counsel